Dkt. 024754-0114

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: DONG, Ke Wen, et al.

S. Serial No.: 09/252,828

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RECOMBINANT BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE HUMAN ZONA PELLUCIDA

PROTEIN 3 (hZP 3) TO TEST MAIL FERTILITY

FOLEY & LARDNER
Suite 500
3000 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007-5109

June 17, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box CPA Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This Amendment is submitted in response to the January 15, 2002 Final Office Action issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the January 15, 2002 Final Office Action was originally due April 15, 2002. Applicants hereby request a two-month extension of time. The required fee for a two-month extension of time is Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00). A check for this amount is enclosed herewith. Accordingly, the Office Action is now due June 15, 2002, and since June 15 is a Saturday and the response is due the next business day, i.e. June 17, 2002. Therefore, this response is being timely filed.